

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 211431
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 /032 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:VPVAKY:MMS (TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE)
APPROVED BY ARA:VPVAKY
ARA:SASHELTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211431

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PPDC, MX

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE FOR LOPEZ PORTILLO

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER
TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO. QUOTE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

WHEN I BECAME PRESIDENT, I SET FOR MYSELF AND MY COUNTRY
SEVERAL PRIORITIES. TWO WHICH WERE HIGH ON MY LIST WERE
TO IMPROVE SIGNIFICANTLY MY COUNTRY'S RELATIONS WITH YOURS
AND TO ENACT A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY FOR MY COUNTRY. AND
RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES HAVE IN FACT IMPROVED
GREATLY SINCE OUR MEETING IN FEBRUARY 1977. AS FOR THE
SECOND PRIORITY, THE US CONGRESS HAS BEEN WORKING ON AN
ENERGY BILL FOR MORE THAN A YEAR, AND NEGOTIATIONS IN THE
CONGRESS HAVE REACHED A CRITICAL STAGE.

I HAVE RECEIVED A FULL REPORT ON YOUR TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR
LUCEY ON NATURAL GAS. I REGRET THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME
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MISUNDERSTANDING AND CONTROVERSY IN THE PAST ON THIS ISSUE.

ONCE MY ENERGY PLAN IS PASSED, I LOOK FORWARD TO STRENGTHEN-

ING OUR RELATIONSHIP ON THIS CRITICAL ISSUE TO OUR MUTUAL
BENEFIT. AN AGREEMENT ON THE SALE OF NATURAL GAS COULD
PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DOING THAT. FOR THE MOMENT,

THOUGH, WHILE THE ENERGY BILL IS BEING DEBATED IN CONGRESS,
IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF THERE WERE NO PUBLIC COMMENTS OR
SPECULATION BY EITHER OF OUR GOVERNMENTS. I WOULD APPRE-
CIATE ANY THOUGHTS YOU MIGHT HAVE ON WAYS WE CAN DEAL WITH
THIS ISSUE IN THE FUTURE.

SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. BEST WISHES. J. UNQUOTE.

2. THIS LETTER SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A PRIVILEGED
CORRESPONDENCE AND NOT REPEAT NOT FOR RELEASE.

3. SIGNED ORIGINAL DATED AUGUST 18 BEING POUCHED.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ENERGY, POLICIES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE211431
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: VPVAKY:MMS (TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE)
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780340-0299
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780845/aaaabkty.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1ded5160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1684151
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE FOR LOPEZ PORTILLO
TAGS: PPDC, ENRG, MX, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (LOPEZ PORTILLO Y PACHECO, JOSE)
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1ded5160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014